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(REV 5-93)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ATTORNEY DOCKET NUMBER
1416/OP551PCUSTRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES
DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US)
CONCERNING A FILING UNDER 35 U.S.C. §371U.S. APPLICATION NO.
of same, NEW
09/142613International Application No.
PCT/JP97/00804International Filing Date
March 13, 1997Priority Date Claimed
March 13, 1996

Title of Invention

ANTI-PHOSPHORYLATED TAU PROTEIN ANTIBODIES AND METHODS FOR DETECTING ALZHEIMER'S
DISEASE WITH THE USE OF THE SAME

Applicant(s) For DO/EO/US

Koichi ISHIGURO, Kazuki SATO, Jun-Mi PARK, Tsuneko UCHIDA and Kazutomo IMAHORI

Applicant herewith submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information:

1. ☒ This is a **FIRST** submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. §371.
2. ☐ This is a **SECOND** or **SUBSEQUENT** submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. §371.
3. ☐ This express request to begin national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. §371(f)) at any time rather than delay examination until the expiration of the applicable time limit set in 35 U.S.C. §371(b) and PCT Articles 22 and 39(1).
4. ☒ A proper Demand for International Preliminary Examination was made by the 19th month from the earliest claimed priority date.
5. ☒ A copy of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. §371(c)(2))
 - a. ☐ is transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau).
 - b. ☒ has been transmitted by the International Bureau. **ATTACHMENT A**
 - c. ☐ is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US)
6. ☒ A translation of the International Application into English (35 U.S.C. §371(c)(2)). **ATTACHMENT B**
7. ☒ Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. §371(c)(3)).
 - a. ☐ are transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau).
 - b. ☐ have been transmitted by the International Bureau.
 - c. ☐ have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has NOT expired.
 - d. ☐ have not been made and will not be made.
8. ☒ An unexecuted oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 U.S.C. §371(c)(4)). **ATTACHMENT C**
9. ☐ A translation of the annexes to the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 (35 U.S.C. §371(c)(5)).

Items 10. to 13. below concern other document(s) or information included:

10. ☒ An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. **ATTACHMENT D**
11. ☐ An assignment document for recording. A separate cover sheet in compliance with 37 CFR 3.28 and 3.31 is included.
12. ☐ A FIRST preliminary amendment.
☐ A SECOND or SUBSEQUENT preliminary amendment.
13. ☐ Other items or information:

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U.S. APPLICATION NO. (if known, see 37 CFR 1.5)
NEW

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.
PCT/JP97/00864

ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NO.
1416/OP551PCUS

14. ☒ The following fees are submitted

CALCULATIONS

PTO USE ONLY

BASIC NATIONAL FEE (37 CFR 1.492(a)(1)-(5)):

☒ Search Report has been prepared by the EPO or JPO..... \$ 930.00

☐ Neither international preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) nor international search fee (37 CFR 1.445(e)(2)) paid to USPTO..... \$1,070.00

ENTER APPROPRIATE BASIC FEE AMOUNT =

\$930.00

Surcharge of \$130.00 for furnishing the oath or declaration later than ☐ 20 ☐ 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(e)).

\$

Claims	Number Filed	Number Extra	Rate
Total Claims	-20 =		X \$22.00
Independent Claims	- 3 =		X \$82.00
Multiple dependent claim(s) (if applicable)			+ \$270.00

\$270.00

TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS =

\$1,200.00

Reduction by 1/2 for filing by small entity, if applicable. Verified Small Entity Statement must also be filed. (Note 37 CFR 1.9, 1.27, 1.28)

\$

SUBTOTAL =

\$1,200.00

Processing fee of \$130.00 for furnishing the English translation later than ☐ 20 ☐ 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(f)).

+

\$

TOTAL NATIONAL FEE =

\$1,200.00

Fee for recording the enclosed assignment (37 CFR 1.21(h)). The assignment must be accompanied by an appropriate cover sheet (37 CFR 3.28, 3.31). \$40 per property +

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TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED =

\$1,200.00

Amount to be refunded

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Amount to be charged

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a. ☒ A check in the amount of \$1,200.00 to cover the above fees is enclosed. A duplicate copy of this form is enclosed.

b. ☐ Please charge my Deposit Account No. 23-0975 in the amount of \$ _____ to cover the above fees. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

c. ☐ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-0975. A duplicate copy of this form is enclosed.

NOTE: Where an appropriate time limit under 37 CFR 1.494 or 1.495 has not been met, a petition to revive (37 CFR 1.137(a) or (b)) must be filed and granted to restore the application to pending status.

SEND ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:

WENDEROTH, LIND & PONACK, L.L.P.
2033 K St., N.W., Ste. 800
Washington, D.C. 20006

Warren Cheek
SIGNATURE

Warren M. Cheek, Jr.
NAME

33,367
REGISTRATION NUMBER

September 11, 1998

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-1-

DESCRIPTION

ANTI-PHOSPHORYLATED TAU PROTEIN ANTIBODIES AND METHODS
FOR DETECTING ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE WITH THE USE OF THE
SAME

5

Technical Field

The present invention relates to antibodies used for detecting Alzheimer's disease. More specifically, the present invention relates to antibodies to a partial peptide containing phosphorylation sites of phosphorylated tau protein in the paired helical filament, a reagent kit containing the same, and methods for detecting Alzheimer's disease using the antibodies or the kit.

10

Background Art

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Alzheimer's disease is progressive dementia occurring at the presenile stage (the age of 45 to 65). It causes morbid changes such as degeneration of neurons and atrophie of cerebral cortex due to a decrease in the number of neurons. Pathologically, a number of senile plaques and neurofibrillary degeneration are observed in the brain. So-called senile dementia caused by spontaneous aging in the senium of the age of 65 or

20

older is not substantially different from Alzheimer's disease from the pathological viewpoint and is regarded as senile dementia of Alzheimer type.

5 The number of patients suffering from Alzheimer's disease increases as senile population grows. This disease has thus drawn social attention. There are various hypotheses about the causes of this disease. However, it has not been elucidated yet and it is desired to be clarified soon.

10 The main component of senile plaques that is one of pathological changes caused by Alzheimer's disease is known to be amyloid β protein (Annu. Rev. Neurosci., 12, 463-490 (1989)). Neurofibrillary degeneration that is another pathological change shows accumulation of the
15 paired helical filament in neurons and tau protein is identified as one of its constituents (J. Biochem. 99, 1807-1810 (1986); Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA, 83, 4913-4917 (1986)).

20 Tau protein is composed of a group of protein isoforms that usually produce several bands at the molecular weight of 48 to 65 kD as a result of SDS-polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis and it is known to promote formation of microtubule. Tau protein
25 incorporated in the PHF of the Alzheimer diseased brain was proved to be abnormally phosphorylated as compared with that in the normal brain using polyclonal antibody to PHF (anti-ptau; J. Biochem., 99, 1807-1810 (1986))

and monoclonal antibody to tau protein (tau-1 antibody;
Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA, 83, 4913-4917 (1986)). The
phosphorylation sites of phosphorylated tau protein
incorporated in the PHF were also identified (JP 6-
5 239893 A). Thus, functions of tau protein involved in
Alzheimer's disease has being clarified.

However, it has not been known so far to detect
Alzheimer's disease based on the phosphorylation site of
phosphorylated tau protein in the PHF. Although methods
10 for detecting Alzheimer's disease using various
antibodies have been proposed, a clinically effective
new detection method is still desired.

Disclosure of the Invention

The present inventors paid attention to the
15 phosphorylation sites of phosphorylated tau protein in
the PHF and found that antibodies obtained by using as
an immunogen a partial peptide comprising a
phosphorylated sites are useful for detecting
Alzheimer's disease, thereby completing the present
20 invention.

The present invention provides antibodies obtained
by using as an immunogen a partial peptide comprising a
phosphorylation sites of phosphorylated tau protein in
the paired helical filament.

25 Preferred embodiments of this invention provides:

the antibody as described above, wherein the phosphorylation site of phosphorylated tau protein is one or more amino acid residues selected from serine at position 198, serine at position 199, serine at position 202, threonine at position 205, threonine at position 231, serine at position 235, serine at position 262, serine at position 396, threonine at position 403, serine at position 404, serine at position 409, serine at position 412, serine at position 413, and serine at position 422 of an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1;

the antibody as described above, wherein the phosphorylation site of phosphorylated tau protein is one or more amino acid residues selected from serine at position 199, serine at position 202, threonine at position 205, threonine at position 231, serine at position 235, serine at position 262, serine at position 396, serine at position 404, serine at position 412, serine at position 413, and serine at position 422 of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1;

the antibody as described above, wherein the partial peptide comprising the phosphorylation site comprises an amino acid residue at the phosphorylated site and plural amino acid residues before and/or after sites of the phosphorylation site; and

the antibody as described above, wherein the partial peptide comprising the phosphorylation site has an amino acid sequence of any one of SEQ ID NO: 2 to SEQ

ID NO: 16.

Another embodiment of this invention provides a reagent kit used for detecting Alzheimer's disease comprising at least any one of the above-described antibodies.

Yet another embodiment of this invention provides methods for detecting Alzheimer's disease comprises examining reactivity between any one of the above-described antibodies and a sample from an individual suspected of Alzheimer's disease.

The present invention will be described in detail below.

In the present invention, an example of tau protein is that having a primary structure consisting of 352 to 441 amino acid residues as described in Goedert et al., Neuron 3, 519-526 (1989). For example, when tau protein having the primary structure represented by the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 1 in the sequence listing is used, one or more amino acid residues to be phosphorylated are selected from serine at position 198, serine at position 199, serine at position 202, threonine at position 205, threonine at position 231, serine at position 235, serine at position 262, serine at position 396, threonine at position 403, serine at position 404, serine at position 409, serine at position 412, serine at position 413, and serine at position 422 of the same sequence (J. Biol. Chem., 270, 823-829

(1995) and Neurosci. Lett., 189, 167-170 (1995)).

It is preferable to use a partial peptide of tau protein comprising one or more phosphorylated amino acid residues selected from serine at position 199, serine at
5 position 202, threonine at position 205, threonine at position 231, serine at position 235, serine at position 262, serine at position 396, serine at position 404, serine at position 412, serine at position 413 and serine at position 422 of the above-described sequence.

10 A peptide comprising the amino acid residue(s) at the above-described phosphorylated site(s) and plural amino acid residues before and/or after sites of the phosphorylation site(s) is preferably used as the partial peptide of tau protein used in the present
15 invention. In particular, such a peptide comprises preferably 1 to 7 amino acid residues, more preferably 3 to 5 amino acid residues, at either before or after site or both sites of the amino acid residue at the phosphorylation site. Among these partial peptides, the
20 peptide having the amino acid sequence described in any one of SEQ ID NO: 2 to 16 in the sequence listing is most preferably used.

The antibody of the present invention can be obtained by immunizing an animal with the partial
25 peptide comprising the phosphorylation site of the phosphorylated tau protein of the present invention as an immunogen and preparing serum from the animal. In

this occasion, it is preferable to use as an immunogen a carrier protein to which the above-described peptide having introduced at its amino terminus or carboxyl terminus an amino acid residue with a reactive functional group, such as cysteine, lysine, glutamic acid, or aspartic acid, is bound as a hapten.

Among the above-described peptides, the partial peptides represented by SEQ ID NO: 3, 13, 15, and 16 are synthesized by the solid phase peptide synthesis using a phenyl group as a protective group for the phosphorylation site as described in Tetrahedron Lett., 32, 7083-7086 (1991).

The phosphorylated peptides represented by the other sequence than those represented by the above-described sequence identification number, which have an aromatic amino acid, a sulfur-containing amino acid, or a heterocyclic amino acid, are synthesized by the solid phase peptide synthesis using a cyclohexyl group as a protective group for the phosphorylation site as described in Peptide Chemistry 1993, 109-112 (1994) or by the solid phase peptide synthesis using a benzyl group as a protective group for the phosphorylation site as described in Chem. Lett., 1099-1112 (1994).

In the preparation of the antibody, the partial peptide synthesized as described above is bound to a carrier protein such as bovine serum albumin (BSA), thyroglobulin, or keyhole lympet hemocyanin. The

binding can be performed easily using an appropriate
condensing agent, such as maleimide, glutaraldehyde, or
carbodiimide. The thus-obtained peptide bound to a
carrier protein is used to immunize an animal. The
5 immunization of an animal can be performed in the same
method as conventional methods used for antibody
production. More specifically, a solution comprising
the peptide bound to a carrier protein is mixed with
adjuvant if necessary, and subcutaneously or
10 intraperitoneally administered to animals usually used
for antibody production, such as mice, rats, rabbits,
guinea pigs, or sheep. Additional immunization is
performed every two to three weeks after the first
immunization to produce antiserum with a high antibody
15 titer. Blood is collected from the immunized animal to
prepare serum. In the present invention, the thus-
obtained antiserum can be used as it is without
purification. Alternatively, serum may be heat-treated
to inactivate complements and subjected to salting out
20 with ammonium sulfate and ion exchange chromatography to
purify immunoglobulin-containing fractions.
Furthermore, the antibody may be purified using a
peptide column having a specific partial peptide
immobilized to obtain an antibody specifically
25 recognizing the above-described phosphorylation site or
its vicinity.

A monoclonal antibody recognizing a specific

epitope can be obtained by collecting antibody-producing cells from the immunized animal, subjecting the collected cells to cell fusion with cultured cells such as a myeloma cell line derived from the same animal to
5 prepare hybridoma, and preparing immunoglobulin fractions from the culture medium of the hybridoma by conventional methods.

Alzheimer's disease can be detected by immunologically reacting the antibody obtained by the
10 present invention with a sample derived from an individual suspected of Alzheimer's disease by per se known conventional methods, detecting an antigen-antibody reaction product, and examining reactivity between the sample and the antibody. The antibody
15 obtained as described above can be used to prepare a reagent kit for detecting Alzheimer's disease by the above-described method comprising the immunoreaction and the detection step. Such a kit comprises the constituents usually used in the immunoreaction-based
20 kit. More specifically, the reagent kit of the present invention comprises at least the antibody of the present invention and, as optional ingredients, a solution for diluting a sample, a washing solution, a labeled antibody or a labeled antigen, chromogen, and a peptide
25 for positive control.

Alzheimer's disease can be detected using the antibody or the reagent kit of the present invention for

example as follows.

A sample is first obtained from an individual suspected of Alzheimer's disease and reacted with the antibody obtained as described above. The sample may be
5 tissues from cerebral cortex or the like and body fluid such as cerebrospinal fluid or blood. When a tissue sample is subjected to the detection method of the present invention, about 0.1 mg of the sample is required. When cerebrospinal fluid or blood is used as
10 a sample, about 0.5 to 0.01 ml of the sample is required.

Once the above-described sample is obtained, the sample is homogenized in physiological saline and centrifuged. The resulting supernatant is fractionated
15 to remove contaminating immunoglobulin and examined for reactivity to the above-obtained antibody as an index.

The thus-obtained fraction is electrophoresed. The antibody as obtained above is added thereto to perform immunoblotting. In this occasion, the antibody can be
20 detected by labeling it with the label used conventionally. Alternatively, the antibody may be detected by reacting it with a secondary antibody that is reactive with the antibody.

If a sample from an individual suspected of
25 Alzheimer's disease is examined for reactivity with the antibody and the reactivity increases compared with a control derived from an individual without Alzheimer's

disease, the individual is regarded to be a patient of Alzheimer's disease. If the reactivity decreases compared with a control from an individual with Alzheimer's disease, the individual is regarded to be
5 free from Alzheimer disease. In this way, Alzheimer's disease can be detected by the present invention.

In the present invention, unlike an antibody obtained using as an immunogen phosphorylated tau protein as a whole or the PHF, the antibody highly
10 specific to each phosphorylation site can be obtained. This antibody is useful for detection specific to the phosphorylation site of phosphorylated tau protein without determining antigen-recognizing specificity. Furthermore, various antibodies site-specific to each
15 phosphorylation site can be efficiently obtained. The thus-obtained various antibodies are examined for reactivity with a sample from an individual with Alzheimer's disease to select an antibody most suitable for detection of Alzheimer's disease easily.

20 Brief Description of the Drawings

Figure 1 is the dot blot showing specificity of the antibodies obtained by immunization with a partial peptide containing a phosphorylation site of phosphorylated tau protein.

25 Figure 2 is photographs of electrophoresis

(immunoblotting) showing reactivity of the TS fraction (the fraction obtained by removing IgG from the supernatant of human cerebral cortex suspension) obtained in Example with the antibodies used in the present invention.

Figure 3 is photographs of electrophoresis (immunoblotting) showing reactivity of the SDS precipitation fraction obtained in Example with the antibodies used in the present invention.

Figure 4 is photographs of electrophoresis (immunoblotting) showing reactivity of the SDS precipitation fraction obtained in Example with the antibodies used in the present invention.

Figure 5 shows a calibration curve in the competitive RIA obtained in Example.

Figure 6 shows the results of measuring the concentrations of phosphorylated tau protein in the cerebrospinal fluid from patients with Alzheimer's disease and patients with no dementia obtained in Example.

Best Mode for Carrying out the Invention

The present invention will be described below in more detail with reference to Examples, but is not construed to be limited thereto.

Production Example 1

Preparation of partial peptide having amino acid sequence described in SEQ ID NO: 3 in the sequence listing (This peptide and the antibodies against this peptide are hereinafter sometimes referred to as "PS202" and "anti-PS202", respectively.)

A peptide shown by H-Lys-Ser-Ser-Pro-Gly-Ser(H_2PO_3)-Pro-Gly-Thr-Pro-Gly-Ser-Arg-NH₂ (SEQ ID NO: 3) was produced by the following method. Symbols hereinafter used respectively have the following meanings: MBHA resin: p-methylbenzhydrylamine resin; Boc: t-butyloxycarbonyl group; Bzl: benzyl group; Ph: phenyl group; Tos: p-toluenesulfonyl group; and Z(2-Cl): 2-chlorobenzoyloxycarbonyl group.

(a) Production of H-Lys[Z(2-Cl)]-Ser(Bzl)-Ser(Bzl)-Pro-Gly-Ser[PO(OPh)₂]-Pro-Gly-Thr(BzL)-Pro-Gly-Ser(Bzl)-Arg(Tos)-MBHA resin

0.94 g of MBHA resin (amine content: 0.64 mmol/g resin) was set in the Bio Search 9500 Model Automatic Peptide Synthesizer. Boc-Arg(Tos)-OH, Boc-Ser(Bzl)-OH, Boc-Gly-OH, Boc-Pro-OH, Boc-Thr(Bzl)-OH, Boc-Gly-OH, Boc-Pro-OH, Boc-Ser[PO(OPh)₂]-OH, Boc-Gly-OH, Boc-Pro-OH, Boc-Ser(Bzl)-OH, Boc-Ser(Bzl)-OH, and Boc-Lys[Z(2-Cl)]-OH were supplied thereto and were then coupled in this order using diisopropylcarbodiimide as a condensing agent to obtain 2.38 g of the above-described side chain-protected peptide-MBHA resin.

(b) Treatment with hydrogen fluoride

1.34 g of the side chain-protected peptide-MBHA resin obtained in (a) was collected and set in a hydrogen fluoride reaction device manufactured by the Peptide Institute, Inc.. The resin was reacted with 13 ml of hydrogen fluoride in the presence of 1.5 ml anisole under ice-cooling for 1 hour. After the completion of the reaction, hydrogen fluoride was distilled off under reduced pressure. The residue was washed with ethyl acetate and extracted with 150 ml of 2 M acetic acid to obtain 350 mg of a crude peptide having a protected phosphate group and shown by H-Lys-Ser-Ser-Pro-Gly-Ser[PO(OPh)₂]-Pro-Gly-Thr-Pro-Gly-Ser-Arg-NH₂.

This product was dissolved in 20 ml of 30% acetic acid and the resulting solution was applied to a Sephadex G-25 column (internal diameter: 5 cm and length: 109 cm). Elution was performed using the same solvent to collect the fraction containing the desired product. The thus-obtained fraction was then dissolved in a small amount of distilled water and purified by HPLC using a reverse phase column (internal diameter: 2 cm and length: 25 cm) packed with ODS (octadecylsilane)-bound silica. Elution was performed by a linear gradient of 5 to 65% acetonitrile in 0.1% trifluoroacetic acid. The yield of the purified product was 110 mg. The structure of this substance was confirmed by FAB mass spectrometry; measured [M + H]⁺;

1445, calculated ($C_{61}H_{92}N_{18}O_{21}P_1 + H$); 1445.

(c) Hydrogenolysis

90 mg of the phosphate group-protected peptide obtained in (b) and 80 mg of platinum oxide (catalyst) were mixed with 1 ml of acetic acid and the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 12 hours under hydrogen atmosphere of 5 to 6 pressure. After the catalyst was filtered off, the filtrate and washings were collected and lyophilized. The resulting product was purified by preparatory HPLC to obtain 55 mg of a final product, phosphorylated peptide shown by H-Lys-Ser-Ser-Pro-Gly-Ser[H_2PO_3]-Pro-Gly-Thr-Pro-Gly-Ser-Arg-NH₂. The structure of this substance was confirmed by FAB mass spectrometry; measured $[M + H]^+$; 1294, calculated ($C_{49}H_{85}N_{18}O_{21}P_1 + H$); 1294.

Production Examples 2 to 4

Partial peptides having amino acid sequences described in SEQ ID NO: 13, NO: 15, and NO: 16 in the sequence listing were obtained in the same manner as described in Production Example 1 (These peptides are hereinafter sometimes referred to as "PS413", "PS412", and "PS412, 413" and the antibodies to these peptides are referred to as "anti-PS413", "anti-PS412", and "anti-PS412, 413", respectively.)

Production Example 5

Preparation of partial peptide having amino acid sequence described in SEQ ID NO: 2 in the sequence listing (This peptide and the antibodies to this peptide are hereinafter sometimes referred to as "PS199" and "anti-PS199", respectively.)

A peptide shown by H-Lys-Ser-Gly-Tyr-Ser-Ser(H_2PO_3)-Pro-Gly-Ser-Pro-Gly-Thr- NH_2 (SEQ ID NO: 2) was produced by the following method. Symbols used hereinafter respectively have the following meanings:

- 10 MBHA resin: p-methylbenzhydrylamine resin; Boc: t-butyloxycarbonyl group; Bzl: benzyl group; cHex: cyclohexane group; Z(2-Br): 2-bromobenzyloxycarbonyl group; and Z(2-Cl): 2-chlorobenzyloxycarbonyl group.
- (a) Production of H-Lys[Z(2-Cl)]-Ser(Bzl)-Gly-Tyr[Z(2-Br)]-Ser(Bzl)-Ser[PO(OcHex)₂]-Pro-Gly-Ser(BzL)-Pro-Gly-Thr(Bzl)-MBHA resin
- 15

- 131 mg of MBHA resin (amine content: 0.76 mmol/g resin) was set in the Bio Search 9500 Model Automatic Peptide Synthesizer. Boc-Thr(Bzl)-OH, Boc-Gly-OH, Boc-Pro-OH, Boc-Ser(Bzl)-OH, Boc-Gly-OH, Boc-Pro-OH, Boc-Ser[PO(OcHex)₂]-OH, Boc-Ser(Bzl)-OH, Tyr[Z(2-Br)]-OH, Boc-Gly-OH, Boc-Ser(Bzl)-OH, and Boc-Lys[Z(2-Cl)]-OH were supplied thereto and were then coupled in this order using diisopropylcarbodiimide as a condensing agent to obtain 307 mg of the above-described side chain-protected peptide-MBHA resin.
- 20
- 25
- (b) Treatment with trifluoromethanesulfonic acid

150 mg of the side chain-protected peptide-MBHA resin obtained in (a) was collected. 10 ml of trifluoroacetic acid containing 1 M methanesulfonic acid and thioanisole, and 0.05 ml of m-cresol were added thereto and the resulting mixture was allowed to react for 4 hours under ice-cooling. After the completion of the reaction, 200 ml of ice-cooled diethyl ether was added thereto to precipitate a peptide. The whole content was collected by filtration with a glass filter and washed with cold diethyl ether. The residue was extracted with 200 ml of 2 M acetic acid to obtain 53 mg of a crude peptide shown by H-Lys-Ser-Gly-Tyr-Ser-Ser[H₂PO₃]-Pro-Gly-Ser-Pro-Gly-Thr-NH₂.

(c) Purification of the peptide

This product was dissolved in 6 ml of distilled water and purified by HPLC using a reverse phase column (internal diameter: 2 cm and length: 25 cm) packed with ODS (octadecylsilane)-bound silica. Elution was performed by a linear gradient of 5 to 35% acetonitrile in 0.1% trifluoroacetic acid. The yield of the purified product was 29 mg. The structure of this substance was confirmed by FAB mass spectrometry; measured [M + H]⁺; 1204, calculated (C₄₇H₇₅N₁₄O₂₁P₁ + H); 1204.

Production Example 6

Preparation of partial peptide having amino acid sequence described in SEO ID NO: 6 in the sequence

listing (This peptide and the antibodies to this peptide are hereinafter sometimes referred to as "PT231" and "anti-PT231", respectively.)

A peptide shown by H-Cys-Val-Ala-Val-Val-Arg-
5 Thr(H₂PO₃)-Pro-Pro-Lys-Ser-Pro-Ser-Ser-OH (SEQ ID NO: 6)
was produced by the following method. Symbols used
hereinafter respectively have the following meanings:
Bzl resin: benzyl alcohol resin; Boc: t-butyloxycarbonyl
group; Bzl: benzyl group; MBzl: 4-methoxybenzyl group;
10 Mts: methylenesulfonyl group; cHex: cyclohexyl group;
and Z(2-Cl): 2-chlorobenzoyloxycarbonyl group.

(a) Production of H-Cys(MBzl)-Val-Ala-Val-Val-Arg(Mts)-
Thr[PO(OcHex)₂]-Pro-Pro-Lys[Z(2-Cl)]-Ser(BzL)-Pro-Ser(Bz
1) -Ser(Bzl)-Bzl resin

15 71 mg of Boc-Ser(Bzl)-Bzl resin (amine content:
0.70 mmol/g resin) was set in the Bio Search 9500 Model
Automatic Peptide Synthesizer. Boc-Ser(Bzl)-OH, Boc-
Pro-OH, Boc-Ser(Bzl)-OH, Boc-Lys[Z(2-Cl)]-OH, Boc-Pro-
OH, Boc-Pro-OH, Boc-Thr[PO(OcHex)₂]-OH, Boc-Arg(Mts)-OH,
20 Boc-Val-OH, Boc-Val-OH, Boc-Ala-OH, Boc-Val-OH, and Boc-
Cys(MBzl)-OH were supplied thereto and were then coupled
in this order using diisopropylcarbodiimide as a
condensing agent to obtain 62 mg of the above-described
side chain-protected peptide-Bzl resin.

25 (b) Treatment with trifluoromethanesulfonic acid

To 62 mg of the side chain-protected peptide-Bzl
resin obtained in (a) were added 0.9 ml of

trifluoromethanesulfonic acid, 1.2 ml of thioanisole, 6.6 ml of trifluoroacetic acid, 0.9 ml of m-cresol, and 0.4 ml of ethanedithiol. The mixture was allowed to react for 5 minutes under ice-cooling and then at room temperature for 3 hours. After the completion of the reaction, 200 ml of ice-cooled diethyl ether was added thereto to precipitate a peptide. The whole content was collected by filtration with a glass filter and washed with cold diethyl ether. The residue was extracted with 170 ml of 2 M acetic acid to obtain 21 mg of a crude peptide shown by H-Cys-Val-Ala-Val-Val-Arg-Thr(H_2PO_3)-Pro-Pro-Lys-Ser-Pro-Ser-Ser-OH.

(c) Purification of the peptide

This product was dissolved in 10 ml of 30% acetic acid and applied to a Sephadex G-25 column (internal diameter: 5 cm and length: 107 cm). Elution was performed using the same solvent to collect the fractions containing the desired product. The yield of this purified product was 12 mg.

The thus-obtained product was dissolved in 5 ml of 30% acetic acid and purified by HPLC using a reverse phase column (internal diameter: 2 cm and length: 25 cm) packed with ODS (octadecylsilane)-bound silica. Elution was performed with 13% acetonitrile in 0.1% trifluoroacetic acid. The yield of the purified product was 7 mg. The structure of this substance was confirmed by FAB mass spectrometry; measured $[M + H]^+$; 1509,

calculated ($C_{61}H_{107}N_{18}O_{22}P_1S_1 + H$): 1508.

Production Example 7

Preparation of partial peptide having amino acid sequence described in SEQ ID NO: 11 in the sequence listing (This peptide and the antibodies to this peptide are hereinafter sometimes referred to as "PS396" and "anti-PS396", respectively.)

A peptide shown by H-Cys-Glu-Ile-Val-Tyr-Lys-Ser(H_2PO_3)-Pro-Val-Val-Ser-Gly-NH₂ (SEQ ID NO: 11) was produced by the following method. Symbols used hereinafter respectively have the following meanings: MBHA resin: p-methylbenzhydrylamine resin; Boc: t-butyloxycarbonyl group; Bzl: benzyl group; MBzl, 4-methoxybenzyl group; cHex: cyclohexyl group; Z(2-Br): 2-bromobenzyloxycarbonyl group; and Z(2-Cl): 2-chlorobenzyloxycarbonyl group.

(a) Production of H-Cys(MBzl)-Glu(OBzl)-Ile-Val-Tyr[Z(2-Br)]-Lys[Z(2-Cl)]-Ser[PO(OcHex)₂]-Pro-Val-Val-Ser(Bzl)-Gly-MBHA resin

131 mg of MBHA resin (amine content: 0.76 mmol/g resin) was set in the Bio Search 9500 Model Automatic Peptide Synthesizer. Boc-Gly-OH, Boc-Ser(Bzl)-OH, Boc-Val-OH, Boc-Val-OH, Boc-Pro-OH, Boc-Ser[PO(OcHex)₂]-OH, Boc-Lys[Z(2-Cl)]-OH, Tyr[Z(2-Br)]-OH, Boc-Val-OH, Boc-Ile-OH, Boc-Glu(OBzl)-OH, and Boc-Cys(MBzl)-OH were supplied thereto and were then coupled in this order

using diisopropylcarbodiimide as a condensing agent to obtain 376 mg of the above-described side chain-protected peptide-MBHA resin.

(b) Treatment with trifluoromethanesulfonic acid

- 5 To 188 mg of the side chain-protected peptide-MBHA resin obtained in (a) were added 10 ml of trifluoroacetic acid containing 1 M methanesulfonic acid and thioanisole, and 0.05 ml of m-cresol. The mixture was allowed to react for 4 hours under ice-cooling.
- 10 After the completion of the reaction, 200 ml of ice-cooled diethyl ether was added thereto to precipitate a peptide. The whole content was collected by filtration with a glass filter and washed with cold diethyl ether, and extracted with 200 ml of 2 M acetic acid to obtain
- 15 87 mg of a crude peptide shown by H-Cys-Glu-Ile-Val-Tyr-Lys-Ser(H₂PO₃)-Pro-Val-Val-Ser-Gly-NH₂.

(c) Purification of the peptide

- This product was dissolved in 9 ml of 30% acetic acid and purified by HPLC using a reverse phase column
- 20 (internal diameter: 2 cm and length: 25 cm) packed with ODS (octadecylsilane)-bound silica. Elution was performed with 16% acetonitrile in 0.1% trifluoroacetic acid. The yield of the purified product was 45 mg. The structure of this substance was confirmed by FAB mass
- 25 spectrometry; measured [M + H]⁺; 1360, calculated (C₅₇H₉₅N₁₄O₂₀P₁S₁ + H); 1360.

Production Examples 8 to 10

Partial peptides having amino acid sequence described in SEQ ID NO: 4, NO: 12, and NO: 14 in the sequence listing were obtained in the same manner as in
5 Production Examples 5, 6, and 7 (These peptides are hereinafter referred to as "PT205", "PS404", and "PS422", respectively, and antibodies to these peptides are referred to as "anti-PT205", "anti-PS404", and "anti-PS422", respectively.)

Production Example 11

Preparation of partial peptide having amino acid sequence described in SEQ ID NO: 7 in the sequence listing (This peptide and the antibodies to this peptide are hereinafter sometimes referred to as "PS235" and
15 "anti-PS235", respectively.)

A peptide shown by H-Cys-Arg-Thr-Pro-Pro-Lys-Ser(H₂PO₃)-Pro-Ser-Ser-Ala-Lys-OH (SEQ ID NO: 7) was produced by the following method. Symbols used hereinafter respectively have the following meanings:

20 Alko resin: p-alkoxybenzyl alcohol resin; Boc: t-butyloxycarbonyl group; tBu: t-butyl group; Bzl: benzyl group; Fmoc: 9-fluorenylmethoxycarbonyl group; Trt: trityl group; Pmc: pentamethylchroman-6-sulfonyl group.

(a) Production of H-Cys(Trt)-Arg(Pmc)-Thr(tBu)-Pro-Pro-Lys(Boc)-Ser[PO(OH)(OBzl)]-Pro-Ser(tBu)-Ser(tBu)-Ala-Lys(Boc)-Alko resin
25

385 mg of Fmoc-Lys(Boc)-Alko resin (amino acid content: 0.65 mmol/g resin) was set in the Applied Bio Systems 431 Model Automatic Peptide Synthesizer. Fmoc-Ala-OH, Fmoc-Ser(tBu)-OH, Fmoc-Ser(tBu)-OH, Fmoc-Pro-OH, 5 Fmoc-Ser[PO(OH)(OBzl)]-OH, Fmoc-Lys(Boc)-OH, Fmoc-Pro-OH, Fmoc-Pro-OH, Fmoc-Thr(tBu)-OH, and Fmoc-Arg(Pmc)-OH were supplied thereto and were then coupled in this order using HBTU [2-(1H-benzotriazole-1-yl)-1,1,3,3-tetr 10 amethyluronium hexafluorophosphate] as a condensing agent to obtain 716 mg of a side chain-protected peptide-Alko resin intermediate. Fmoc-Cys(Trt)-OH was condensed with 358 mg of this intermediate to obtain 395 mg of the above-described side chain-protected peptide-Alko resin.

15 (b) Treatment with trifluoroacetic acid

To 196 mg of the side chain-protected peptide-Alko resin obtained in (a) was added a mixture containing 8.25 ml of trifluoroacetic acid, 0.5 ml of purified water, 0.5 ml of thioanisole, 0.75 ml of phenol, and 20 0.25 ml of ethanedithiol. The resulting mixture was allowed to react for 1.5 hour at room temperature. After the completion of the reaction, 200 ml of ice-cooled diethyl ether was added thereto to precipitate a peptide. The whole content was collected by filtration 25 with a glass filter, washed with cold diethyl ether, and extracted with 80 ml of 2 M acetic acid to obtain 82 mg of a crude peptide shown by H-Cys-Arg-Thr-Pro-Pro-Lys-

Ser(H₂PO₃)-Pro-Ser-Ser-Ala-Lys-OH.

(c) Purification of the peptide

This product was dissolved in 7 ml of 0.1% trifluoroacetic acid and purified by HPLC using a reverse phase column (internal diameter: 2 cm and length: 25 cm) packed with ODS (octadecylsilane)-bound silica. Elution was performed with 7% acetonitrile in 0.1% trifluoroacetic acid. The yield of the purified product was 62 mg. The structure of this substance was confirmed by FAB mass spectrometry; measured [M + H]⁺; 1339, calculated (C₅₂H₉₂N₁₇O₂₀P₁S₁ + H); 1339.

Production Examples 12 to 15

Partial peptides having amino acid sequence described in SEQ ID NO: 5, NO: 8, NO: 9, and NO: 10 in the sequence listing were obtained in the same manner as in Production Example 11 (These peptides are hereinafter sometimes referred to as "PS199,202", "ratPS235", "PT231,PS235", and "PS262", respectively, and the antibodies to these peptides are referred to as "anti-PS199,202", "anti-ratPS235", "anti-PT231,PS235", and "anti-PS262", respectively.)

Production Example 16

Preparation of partial peptide having amino acid sequence described in SEQ ID NO: 17 in the sequence listing (This peptide and the antibodies to this peptide

are hereinafter sometimes referred to as "Tau-C" and "anti-Tau-C", respectively.)

A peptide shown by H-Ser-Pro-Gln-Leu-Ala-Thr-Leu-Ala-Asp-Glu-Val-Ser-Ala-Ser-Leu-Ala-Lys-OH (SEQ ID NO:
5 17) was produced by the following method. Symbols used hereinafter respectively have the following meanings:

Alko resin: p-alkoxybenzyl alcohol resin; Boc: t-butylloxycarbonyl group; tBu: t-butyl group; Bzl: benzyl group; Fmoc: 9-fluorenylmethoxycarbonyl group; and Trt: trityl group.

(a) Production of H-Ser(tBu)-Pro-Gln(Trt)-Leu-Ala-Thr(tBu)-Leu-Ala-Asp(OtBu)-Glu(OtBu)-Val-Ser(tBu)-Ala-Ser-Leu-Ala-Lys(Boc)-Alko resin

284 mg of Alko resin (amine content: 0.88 mmol/g
15 resin) was set in the ABI A431 Model Automatic Peptide Synthesizer. Fmoc-Lys(Boc)-OH was bound to the resin using dimethylaminopyridine and diisopropylcarbodiimide as condensing agents. Then, Fmoc-Ala-OH, Fmoc-Leu-OH, Fmoc-Ser(tBu)-OH, Fmoc-Ala-OH, Fmoc-Ser(tBu)-OH, Fmoc-Val-OH, Fmoc-Glu(OtBu)-OH, Fmoc-Asp(OtBu)-OH, Fmoc-Ala-OH, Fmoc-Leu-OH, Fmoc-Thr(tBu)-OH, Fmoc-Ala-OH, Fmoc-Leu-OH, Fmoc-Gln(Trt)-OH, Fmoc-Pro-OH, and Fmoc-Ser(tBu)-OH were supplied thereto and were then coupled in this order using HBTU [2-(1H-benzotriazole-1-yl)-1,1,
20 3,3-tetramethyluronium hexafluorophosphate] as a condensing agent to obtain 905 mg of the above-described side chain-protected peptide-Alko resin.

(b) Treatment with trifluoroacetic acid

To 543 mg of the side chain-protected peptide-Alko resin obtained in (a) were added 9.5 ml of trifluoroacetic acid, 0.25 ml of ethanedithiol, and 0.5
5 ml of distilled water. The mixture was allowed to react for 5 minutes under ice-cooling and then at room temperature for 1.5 hour. After the completion of the reaction, 200 ml of ice-cooled diethyl ether was added thereto to precipitate a peptide. The whole content was
10 collected by filtration with a glass filter, washed with cold diethyl ether, and extracted with 100 ml of 2 M acetic acid to obtain 250 mg of a crude peptide shown by H-Ser-Pro-Gln-Leu-Ala-Thr-Leu-Ala-Asp-Glu-Val-Ser-Ala-Ser-Leu-Ala-Lys-OH.

15 (c) Purification of the peptide

This product was dissolved in 20 ml of 30% acetic acid and applied to a Sephadex G-25 column (internal diameter: 5 cm and length: 107 cm). Elution was
performed using the same solvent to collect the
20 fractions containing the desired product. The yield of this purified product was 122 mg. The structure of this substance was confirmed by FAB mass spectrometry; measured $[M + H]^+$; 1702, calculated ($C_{73}H_{125}N_{19}O_{27}S_2 + H$); 1701.

sequence described in SEQ ID NO: 18 in the sequence listing (This peptide and the antibodies to this peptide are hereinafter sometimes referred to as "Tau-N" and "anti-Tau-N", respectively.)

5 A peptide shown by H-Ala-Glu-Pro-Arg-Gln-Glu-Glu-Phe-Glu-Val-Met-Glu-Cys-NH₂ (SEQ ID NO: 18) was produced by the following method. Symbols used hereinafter respectively have the following meanings: Fmoc-NH-SAL resin: 4-(2',4'-dimethoxyphenyl-Fmoc-aminoethyl)phenoxy
10 resin; Boc: t-butyloxy-carbonyl group; tBu: t-butyl group; Bzl: benzyl group; Fmoc: 9-fluorenylmethoxycarbonyl group; Trt: trityl group; and Pmc: pentamethylchroman-6-sulfonyl group.
(a) Production of H-Ala-Glu(OtBu)-Pro-Arg(Pmc)-Gln(Trt)-
15 Glu(OtBu)-Phe-Glu(OtBu)-Val-Met-Glu(OtBu)-Cys(Trt)-NH-SAL resin

532 mg of Fmoc-NH-SAL resin (amine content: 0.47 mmol/g resin) was set in the ABI A431 Model Automatic Peptide Synthesizer. Fmoc-Cys(Trt)-OH, Fmoc-Glu(OtBu)-
20 OH, Fmoc-Met-OH, Fmoc-Val-OH, Fmoc-Glu(OtBu)-OH, Fmoc-Phe-OH, Fmoc-Glu(OtBu)-OH, Fmoc-Gln(Trt)-OH, Fmoc-Arg(Pmc)-OH, Fmoc-Pro-OH, Fmoc-Glu(OtBu)-OH, and Fmoc-Ala-OH were supplied thereto and were then coupled in this order using HBTU [2-(1H-benzotriazole-1-yl)-1,1,3,
25 3-tetramethyluronium hexafluorophosphate] as a condensing agent to obtain 1122 mg of the above-described side chain-protected peptide-NH-SAL resin.

(b) Treatment with trifluoroacetic acid

To 673 mg of the side chain-protected peptide-NH-SAL resin obtained in (a) were added 0.75 ml of phenol, 0.5 ml of thioanisole, 8.25 ml of trifluoroacetic acid, 5 0.25 ml of ethanedithiol, and 0.5 ml of distilled water. The mixture was allowed to react for 5 minutes under ice-cooling and then at room temperature for 1.5 hour. After the completion of the reaction, 200 ml of ice-cooled diethyl ether was added thereto to precipitate a 10 peptide. The whole content was collected by filtration with a glass filter, washed with cold diethyl ether, and extracted with 50 ml of 2 M acetic acid and 250 ml of distilled water to obtain 182 mg of a crude peptide shown by H-Ala-Glu-Pro-Arg-Gln-Glu-Glu-Phe-Glu-Val-Met-15 Glu-Cys-NH₂.

(c) Purification of the peptide

This product was dissolved in 20 ml of 30% acetic acid and applied to a Sephadex G-25 column (internal diameter: 5 cm and length: 107 cm). Elution was 20 performed using the same solvent to collect the fractions containing the desired product. The yield of this purified product was 136 mg.

This product was dissolved in 20 ml of 20% acetonitrile and purified by HPLC using a reverse phase 25 column (internal diameter: 2 cm and length: 25 cm) packed with ODS (octadecylsilane)-bound silica. Elution was performed with 22% acetonitrile in 0.1%

trifluoroacetic acid. The yield of the purified product was 96 mg. The structure of this substance was confirmed by FAB mass spectrometry; measured $[M + H]^+$; 1467, calculated ($C_{61}H_{95}N_{17}O_{21}S_2 + H$); 1467.

5

Example 1

Preparation of antibodies

The partial peptides obtained in Production Examples 1 to 17 were each bound to an equivalent weight of keyhole limpet hemocyanin to serve as an immunogen.

10 0.2 mg of each of the immunogens was dissolved in 0.3 ml of physiological saline and emulsified with an equivalent volume of Freund's adjuvant. Rabbits were immunized with the resulting emulsion every three weeks. The thus-obtained antisera were purified by applying

15 onto a Affigel 15 column (Bio-Rad) to which the respective antigenic peptide was bound and eluted using Immunopure gentle Ag/Ab buffer system (Pierce). Thus, the above-described antibodies that specifically recognize the respective phosphorylation sites were

20 obtained.

Specificity of the antibodies was confirmed by dot blotting.

More specifically, Immobilon P-membrane (Millipore) was dotted with 18 pmol of each peptide dissolved in a

25 70% DMSO solution in line with each other, allowed to adsorb them, and dried. This membrane was immersed in

TBS (20 mM Tris-HCl (pH 7.5), 150 mM NaCl) containing 5% skim milk for 1 hour to prevent non-specifically binding of the antibodies to be added in the following step to the membrane. The membrane was then washed with TBS for 5 minutes three times, immersed in TBS containing the desired antibody (first antibody), placed between parafilm, and allowed to react at 4°C for 14 hours in a humidified box to bind the first antibodies to the respective antigen peptides on the membrane. The membrane was then washed with TBS containing 0.05% Tween 20 (TBST) for 5 minutes three times. The following procedure until color development was performed using ProtoBlot Western Blot AP System (Promega).

Anti-rabbit IgG antibody to which alkaline phosphatase was covalently bound (second antibody) was diluted 5000-fold with TBST. The membrane was immersed in this diluted solution at 4°C for 2 hours to bind alkaline phosphatase to the antigen-first antibody binding product on the membrane through the second antibody. The membrane was washed with TBST for 5 minutes three times, then with TBS for 5 minutes twice. The membrane was immersed in a reaction mixture (100 mM Tris-HCl (pH 9.5), 100 mM NaCl, 5 mM MgCl₂) supplemented with 0.165 mg/ml of 5-bromo-4-chloro-3-indolyl phosphate (BCIP) and 0.33 mg/ml of nitro blue tetrazolium (NBT) and the existence of alkaline phosphatase on the membrane was detected by development of purple color.

The reaction was terminated by immersing the membrane in water.

The first antibodies used in this Example were all rabbit antisera as they were. The same results were
5 obtained using IgG obtained by purifying the antisera by affinity chromatography using a peptide column. The dilution of each antiserum was 1000-fold for anti-PS199, 250-fold for anti-PS202, 500-fold for anti-PT205, 250-fold for anti-PT231, 250-fold for anti-PS235, 25-fold
10 for anti-rat PS235 (anti-rPS235), 500-fold for anti-PS262, 1000-fold for anti-PS396, 500-fold for anti-PS404, 500-fold for anti-PS413, and 500-fold for anti-PS422. The control peptides used were non-phosphorylated peptides including the amino acid sequence shown by SEQ
15 ID NO: 19 (a peptide shown by K1, the 226th to the 240th amino acid residues, in SEQ ID NO: 1 in Fig. 1), the amino acid sequence shown by SEQ ID NO: 20 (a peptide shown by K2, the 191st to the 224th amino acid residues, in SEQ ID NO: 1 in Fig. 1), the amino acid sequence
20 shown by SEQ ID NO: 21 (a peptide shown by AK-K3, the 384th to the 438th amino acid residues, in SEQ ID NO: 1 in Fig. 1), and the amino acid sequence shown by SEQ ID NO: 22 (a peptide shown by S262, the 257th to the 267th amino acid residues having a cysteine residue at the N-
25 terminus, in SEQ ID NO: 1 in Fig. 1). These peptides were produced in the same manner in (a) and (b) in Production Example 1.

The results of dot blotting are shown in Fig. 1. The abscissa shows the peptide adsorbed by dotting it on the membrane and the ordinate shows the antibody. It shows that the respective antibodies obtained as described above are specifically bound to the corresponding phosphorylation sites.

Example 2

Study on reactivity of antibody with samples

(1) Preparation of human brain extract

Human brain extracts were prepared from 8 cases of normal human brains and 19 cases of human brains of patients with Alzheimer's disease. The following procedure was all performed at 4°C.

1 g was sampled from chilled specimen of postmortem human cerebral cortex, cut into pieces with a razor in 3 ml of a TSinh solution [50 mM Tris-HCl (pH 7.6), 0.15 M NaCl, 0.5 mM DIFP (diisopropylfluorophosphate), 1 µg/ml antipain, 0.5 mM PMSF (phenylmethanesulfonyl fluoride), 1 mg/ml of TLCK (tricyl-lysine-chloromethyl ketone), 1 µg/ml of leupeptin, 0.1 g/ml of pepstatin], sonicated, and made into a suspension with a homogenizer. The resulting suspension was centrifuged at 80,000 rpm for 15 minutes to obtain a supernatant. Human IgG in this supernatant was removed with Protein G-Sepharose 4 Fast Flow (Pharmacia) and the resulting fraction was designated as TS fraction. The precipitate was

sonicated in 2 ml of the above-described TSinh solution and made into a suspension with a homogenizer. The resulting suspension was washed by centrifugation at 80,000 rpm for 15 minutes and the thus-obtained

5 precipitate was sonicated in 2 ml of TSinh containing 1% Triton X-100 and made into a suspension with a homogenizer. The homogenized product was centrifuged at 80,000 rpm for 15 minutes to obtain a supernatant (TX fraction). The precipitate was sonicated in 2 ml of
10 TSinh containing 1% Triton X-100, made into a suspension with a homogenizer and washed by centrifugation at 80,000 rpm for 15 minutes. The resulting precipitate was sonicated in 2 ml of TSinh containing 2% SDS and homogenized to obtain a suspension. The suspension was
15 centrifuged at 80,000 rpm for 15 minutes to obtain a supernatant (SDS supernatant fraction). The resulting precipitate was sonicated in 2 ml of TSinh containing 2% SDS, made into a suspension with a homogenizer, and washed by centrifugation at 80,000 for 15 minutes. The
20 thus-obtained precipitate was sonicated in 2 ml of TSinh containing 2% SDS and made into a suspension (SDS precipitate fraction) with a homogenizer.

(2) Immunoblotting using phosphorylation site-specific antibodies

25 Laemmli's sample treatment solution (Nature 227, 680-685 (1970)) was added to each fraction obtained above. The mixture was heated at 95°C for 5 minutes and

subjected to SDS polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis. The resulting electrophoretic patterns were transferred to Immobilon P-membrane (Millipore). After blocking with TBS containing 5% skim milk for 2 hours, the

5 membrane was reacted with the phosphorylation site-specific antibody obtained in Example 1 as a first antibody for 14 hours. The reaction mixture was washed with Tween 20 and TBS and treated with ProtoBlot AP (Promega) as a second antibody to develop color of the

10 antibody-antigen reaction product on the membrane.

The first antibody was all rabbit IgG and dilution of the first antibody was shown by the following numerals after "x" under the names of the respective antibodies in Figs. 2 to 4 with respect to Examples.

15 Almost all of the first antibodies were previously purified by affinity chromatography using an antigen peptide column. However, PS262 and PS422 were used in the form of antisera and distinguished from others by indicating "S" under the name of antibodies in these

20 figures.

Tau-N and Tau-C are peptides obtained in Production Examples 16 and 17 and correspond to the 2nd to the 12th and the 422nd to the 438th amino acid residues, respectively, of human tau protein represented by SEQ ID

25 NO: 1 in the sequence listing, and used as controls showing the existence of tau protein.

A positive control used was whole brain extract of

8-day-old juvenile rat. Juvenile tau protein is known to be highly phosphorylated tau protein which is similar to that in the PHF (J. Biol. Chem. 268, 25712-25717 (1993)). Specifically, 0.75 g of 8-day-old juvenile rat
5 brain was homogenized in 1.5 ml of medium containing 10 mM Tris-HCl (pH 7.4), 50 mM NaCl, 50 mM NaF, 1 mM EDTA, 1 mM EGTA, 50 mM β -glycerophosphoric acid, 0.1 mM Na_2VO_4 , 1 mM PMSF, 1 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ antipain, 1 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ leupeptin, 0.1 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ pepstatin, and 3 mM benzamidine. The
10 homogenized product was centrifuged at 25,000 rpm for 20 minutes and a supernatant was recovered to serve as a positive control.

The results are shown in Figs. 2, 3 and 4. Figure 2 shows the result of immunoblotting of the TS fraction;
15 Figures 3 and 4 show the result of immunoblotting of the SDS precipitate fraction. In these figures, " A " in lane AD/N stands for the result of brain extract from an Alzheimer's disease patient; " N ", for the result of normal brain extract; " M ", for molecular weight
20 markers; the next numerals for the molecular weight of the markers in terms of kD. Rat P8 lane stands for the immunoblotting result of the positive control and the band indicated by an arrow is phosphorylated tau protein band.

25 Any antibody did not react with the normal brain extract, but did react with the brain extract from an Alzheimer's disease patient. This indicates that the

method of the present invention enables detecting Alzheimer's disease. The TS fraction contains easily soluble tau protein, whereas the SDS precipitation fraction contains less soluble tau protein. The method
5 of the present invention enables detecting not only phosphorylated tau protein in tissues but also that in cerebrospinal fluid or blood thought to contain easily soluble tau protein. In other words, cerebrospinal fluid and blood can also be used as a sample as well as
10 tissues.

Example 3

Studies on reactivity of anti-human phosphorylated tau protein antibodies with a sample by radioimmunoassay (RIA)

- 15 (1) Preparation of ^{125}I -labeled antigen
(a) Labeling by Bolton-Hunter method

Peptides having a lysine residue at the amino terminus as shown in Production Examples 1 to 5 (SEQ ID NO: 3, 13, 15, 16, and 2 in the sequence listing) were
20 labeled with ^{125}I in the following manner.

A solution of ^{125}I -Bolton-Hunter reagent in benzene (18.5 MBq, 500 μCi ; Du Pont, NEX-120) was placed in a reaction test tube and benzene was vaporized in a stream of nitrogen. 20 μg of the peptide dissolved in 50 μl of
25 500 mM sodium chloride-160 mM borate buffer (pH 8.5) was added to the test tube and reacted for 2 hours under

cooling with occasional stirring. 10 μ l of 10% potassium iodide solution and 700 μ l of 0.1% trifluoroacetic acid were added to the reaction mixture and the resulting mixture was purified by HPLC using a reverse phase column (internal diameter: 4 mm and length: 25 cm) packed with ODS (octadecylsilane)-bound silica. Elution was performed by a linear gradient of acetonitrile in 0.1% trifluoroacetic acid up to 60% at a rate of 1%/min. The flow rate of the eluate was 1 ml/min. The eluate was fractionated per 0.5 minute. A part of the fraction considered as a peak monitored by a radioactivity detector was measured with a scintillation counter to confirm a desired fraction. Phosphate buffer (Dulbecco's PBS(-), pH 7.3) containing 2% bovine serum albumin (BSA), 0.05% sodium azide, and 0.05% Tween 20 was added to the fraction. The resulting solution was divided into vials in small amounts containing 1,000,000 to 4,000,000 count/min (cpm) per vial and lyophilized.

(b) Labeling by chrolamin-T method

Peptide having a tyrosine residue at the amino terminus in place of a cysteine residue in the peptides as shown in Production Examples 6 to 14 (SEQ ID NO: 6, 11, 4, 12, 14, 7, 5, 8, and 9 in the sequence listing) were synthesized by the Fmoc method as used in Production Example 11 and the resulting peptides were labeled with 125 I in the following manner.

10 μ g of the peptide was dissolved in 50 μ l of 0.2

M phosphate buffer (pH 7.3) ,18.5 MBq of Na¹²⁵I (500 μ Ci; Du Pont, NEZ-033H) was added thereto, and the mixture was stirred. 3 μ g of chrolamin-T (1 mg/ml in 0.2 M phosphate buffer; dissolved just prior to addition) was added thereto. The mixture was stirred and reacted at room temperature for 5 minutes. 17.5 μ g of ascorbic acid (0.7 mg/ml 0.2 M phosphate buffer; dissolved just prior to addition) was then added thereto, the mixture was stirred, and the reaction was performed at room temperature for 1 minute. 10 μ l of a 10% potassium iodide solution and 700 μ l of 0.1% trifluoroacetic acid were added thereto. The resulting mixture was purified by reverse phase HPLC in the same manner as in (a) and fractionated. The desired fraction was divided into vials in small amounts and lyophilized.

(2) Competitive RIA

"Anti-PS262" among the antibodies prepared in Production Example 18 is exemplified below.

¹²⁵I-YPS-262 obtained in (1) was dissolved in RIA buffer (Dulbecco's PBS(-) containing 0.1% BSA, 0.05% sodium azide, and 0.05% Tween 20) and a 100 μ l portion (about 10,000 cpm) was added to an assay tube. As a standard, 100 μ l of RIA buffer containing peptide YPS262 whose amino acids were determined was also added within the range from 0 to 10000 fmol/ml. After 300 μ l of the RIA buffer was added, 100 μ l of "anti-PS262" diluted 10,000-fold with the RIA buffer was further added and

the mixture was stirred. The mixture was incubated overnight at 4°C. 100 µl of normal rabbit serum diluted 128-fold with the RIA buffer, 100 µl of anti-rabbit IgG goat serum diluted 32-fold, 200 µl of Dulbecco's PBS(-) containing 8% polyethylene glycol (PEG6000) and 0.2% cellulose powder (Avicel, Registered Trademark) were added thereto. The mixture was stirred and incubated at 4°C for 30 minutes then centrifuged at 4°C at 3000 rpm for 20 minutes. The resulting supernatant was removed by suction and the radioactivity of the precipitation was measured with a scintillation counter.

A calibration curve was prepared by plotting the concentration of the standard substance (fmol/ml) as abscissa and the ratio of the count at each concentration of the standard substance to the count at 0 fmol/ml of its concentration as ordinate. Figure 5 shows this calibration curve. Figure 5 indicates that the peptide can be measured 30 fmol/ml at minimum with good accuracy by the method of the present invention.

Furthermore, a derivative S262 of the peptide shown by SEQ ID NO: 10 in the sequence listing, in which cysteine is not added and serine is not phosphorylated, was synthesized by the Fmoc method in the same manner as in Production Example 11 and was used to evaluate the specificity of the antibody anti-PS262. The count did not decrease even when S262 was added to 2000 fmol/ml, indicating that the antibody of the present invention

specifically recognized PS262 containing phosphorylated serine.

(3) Measuring phosphorylated tau protein in cerebrospinal fluids from patients

5 The concentrations of phosphorylated tau protein in cerebrospinal fluids from 8 patients with Alzheimer's disease (AD) were measured using the method and the calibration curve in (2). The concentrations of phosphorylated tau protein in cerebrospinal fluids from
10 7 non-dementia patients were also measured as a control (CTL). The results are shown in Fig. 6. As shown in Fig. 6, phosphorylated tau protein was not detected in any of CTL, while 45 to 75 fmol/ml of phosphorylated tau protein was detected in AD.

15 Industrial Applicability

 The present invention provides antibodies that specifically recognize phosphorylated tau protein using as an immunogen a partial peptide containing a phosphorylation site of phosphorylated tau protein in
20 the PHF. Phosphorylated tau protein in brain extracts and tissue sections can be detected using the antibody obtained as above. Furthermore, the method of measuring phosphorylated tau protein using this antibody of the present invention enables simply measuring
25 phosphorylated tau protein in body fluids and is useful for detecting Alzheimer's disease.

SEQUENCE LISTING

(1) GENERAL INFORMATION

(i) APPLICANT: Koichi, Ishiguro
Kazuki, Sato
Jun-Mi, Park
Tsuneko, Uchida
Kazutomo Imahori

(ii) TITLE OF INVENTION: ANTI-PHOSPHORYLATED TAU PROTEIN ANTIBODY AND
METHOD FOR DETECTING ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE WITH THE USE OF THE SAME

(iii) NUMBER OF SEQUENCES: 22

(iv) COMPUTER READABLE FORM:

- (A) MEDIUM TYPE: Floppy disk
- (B) COMPUTER: IBM PC compatible
- (C) OPERATING SYSTEM: PC-DOS/MS-DOS
- (D) SOFTWARE: PatentIn Release #1.0, Version #1.30 (EPO)

(vi) CURRENT APPLICATION DATA

- (A) APPLICATION NUMBER:
- (B) FILING DATE:
- (C) CLASSIFICATION:

(vi) PRIOR APPLICATION DATA

- (A) APPLICATION NUMBER: JP 8/56090
- (B) FILING DATE: 13-MAR-1996

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 1:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) SEQUENCE LENGTH: 441 amino acids
- (B) SEQUENCE TYPE: amino acid
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 1:

Met	Ala	Glu	Pro	Arg	Gln	Glu	Phe	Glu	Val	Met	Glu	Asp	His	Ala	Gly
1					5					10					15
Gln	Asp	Thr	Tyr	Gly	Leu	Gly	Asp	Arg	Lys	Asp	Gln	Gly	Gly	Tyr	Thr
				20					25					30	
Met	His	Gln	Glu	Gly	Asp	Thr	Asp	Ala	Gly	Leu	Lys	Glu	Ser	Pro	Leu

35					40					45						
Gln	Thr	Pro	Thr	Glu	Asp	Gly	Ser	Glu	Glu	Pro	Gly	Ser	Glu	Thr	Ser	
50					55					60						
Asp	Ala	Lys	Ser	Thr	Pro	Thr	Ala	Glu	Asp	Val	Thr	Ala	Pro	Leu	Val	
65					70					75					80	
Asp	Glu	Gly	Ala	Pro	Gly	Lys	Gln	Ala	Ala	Ala	Gln	Pro	His	Thr	Glu	
85					90					95						
Ile	Pro	Glu	Gly	Thr	Thr	Ala	Glu	Glu	Ala	Gly	Ile	Gly	Asp	Thr	Pro	
100					105					110						
Ser	Leu	Glu	Asp	Glu	Ala	Ala	Gly	His	Val	Thr	Gln	Ala	Arg	Met	Val	
115					120					125						
Ser	Lys	Ser	Lys	Asp	Gly	Thr	Gly	Ser	Asp	Asp	Lys	Lys	Ala	Lys	Gly	
130					135					140						
Ala	Asp	Gly	Lys	Thr	Lys	Ile	Ala	Thr	Pro	Arg	Gly	Ala	Ala	Pro	Pro	
145					150					155					160	
Gly	Gln	Lys	Gly	Gln	Ala	Asn	Ala	Thr	Arg	Ile	Pro	Ala	Lys	Thr	Pro	
165					170					175						
Pro	Ala	Pro	Lys	Thr	Pro	Pro	Ser	Ser	Gly	Glu	Pro	Pro	Lys	Ser	Gly	
180					185					190						
Asp	Arg	Ser	Gly	Tyr	Ser	Ser	Pro	Gly	Ser	Pro	Gly	Thr	Pro	Gly	Ser	
195					200					205						
Arg	Ser	Arg	Thr	Pro	Ser	Leu	Pro	Thr	Pro	Pro	Thr	Arg	Glu	Pro	Lys	
210					215					220						
Lys	Val	Ala	Val	Val	Arg	Thr	Pro	Pro	Lys	Ser	Pro	Ser	Ser	Ala	Lys	
225					230					235					240	
Ser	Arg	Leu	Gln	Thr	Ala	Pro	Val	Pro	Met	Pro	Asp	Leu	Lys	Asn	Val	
245					250					255						
Lys	Ser	Lys	Ile	Gly	Ser	Thr	Glu	Asn	Leu	Lys	His	Gln	Pro	Gly	Gly	
260					265					270						
Gly	Lys	Val	Gln	Ile	Ile	Asn	Lys	Lys	Leu	Asp	Leu	Ser	Asn	Val	Gln	
275					280					285						
Ser	Lys	Cys	Gly	Ser	Lys	Asp	Asn	Ile	Lys	His	Val	Pro	Gly	Gly	Gly	
290					295					300						
Ser	Val	Gln	Ile	Val	Tyr	Lys	Pro	Val	Asp	Leu	Ser	Lys	Val	Thr	Ser	
305					310					315					320	
Lys	Cys	Gly	Ser	Leu	Gly	Asn	Ile	His	His	Lys	Pro	Gly	Gly	Gly	Gln	
325					330					335						
Val	Glu	Val	Lys	Ser	Glu	Lys	Leu	Asp	Phe	Lys	Asp	Arg	Val	Gln	Ser	
340					345					350						
Lys	Ile	Gly	Ser	Leu	Asp	Asn	Ile	Thr	His	Val	Pro	Gly	Gly	Gly	Asn	

	355		360		365	
Lys	Lys	Ile	Glu	Thr	His	Lys
	370		375		380	
Lys	Thr	Asp	His	Gly	Ala	Glu
385		390		395		400
Gly	Asp	Thr	Ser	Pro	Arg	His
	405		410		415	
Ile	Asp	Met	Val	Asp	Ser	Pro
	420		425		430	
Ser	Ala	Ser	Leu	Ala	Lys	Gln
	435		440			

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 2:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

(A) SEQUENCE LENGTH: 12 amino acids

(B) SEQUENCE TYPE: amino acid

(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: peptide

(ix) FEATURE:

(A) NAME/KEY :

(B) LOCATION : 6

(D) OTHER INFORMATION:Xaa=phosphoserine

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 2:

Lys	Ser	Gly	Tyr	Ser	Xaa	Pro	Gly	Ser	Pro	Gly	Thr
1				5						10	

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 3:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

(A) SEQUENCE LENGTH: 13 amino acids

(B) SEQUENCE TYPE: amino acid

(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: peptide

(ix) FEATURE:

(A) NAME/KEY :

(B) LOCATION : 6

(D) OTHER INFORMATION:Xaa=phosphoserine

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 3:

Lys	Ser	Ser	Pro	Gly	Xaa	Pro	Gly	Thr	Pro	Gly	Ser	Arg
1					5					10		

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 4:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) SEQUENCE LENGTH: 12 amino acids
- (B) SEQUENCE TYPE: amino acid
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: peptide

(ix) FEATURE:

- (A) NAME/KEY :
- (B) LOCATION : 7
- (D) OTHER INFORMATION:Xaa=phosphothreonine

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 4:

Cys Pro Gly Ser Pro Gly Xaa Pro Gly Ser Arg Ser

1 5 10

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 5:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) SEQUENCE LENGTH: 13 amino acids
- (B) SEQUENCE TYPE: amino acid
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: peptide

(ix) FEATURE:

- (A) NAME/KEY :
- (B) LOCATION : 6
- (D) OTHER INFORMATION:Xaa=phosphoserine

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 5:

Lys Ser Xaa Pro Gly Xaa Pro Gly Thr Pro Gly Ser Arg

1 5 10

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 6:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) SEQUENCE LENGTH: 14 amino acids
- (B) SEQUENCE TYPE: amino acid
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: peptide

(ix) FEATURE:

- (A) NAME/KEY :
- (B) LOCATION : 7
- (D) OTHER INFORMATION:Xaa=phosphothreonine

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 6:

Cys Val Ala Val Val Arg Xaa Pro Pro Lys Ser Pro Ser Ser

1 5 10

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 7:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

(A) SEQUENCE LENGTH: 12 amino acids

(B) SEQUENCE TYPE: amino acid

(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: peptide

(ix) FEATURE:

(A) NAME/KEY :

(B) LOCATION : 7

(D) OTHER INFORMATION:Xaa=phosphoserine

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 7:

Cys Arg Thr Pro Pro Lys Xaa Pro Ser Ser Ala Lys

1 5 10

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 8:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

(A) SEQUENCE LENGTH: 12 amino acids

(B) SEQUENCE TYPE: amino acid

(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: peptide

(ix) FEATURE:

(A) NAME/KEY :

(B) LOCATION : 7

(D) OTHER INFORMATION:Xaa=phosphoserine

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 8:

Cys Arg Thr Pro Pro Lys Xaa Pro Ser Ala Ser Lys

1 5 10

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 9:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

(A) SEQUENCE LENGTH: 12 amino acids

(B) SEQUENCE TYPE: amino acid

(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: peptide

(ix) FEATURE:

(A) NAME/KEY :

(B) LOCATION : 3

(D) OTHER INFORMATION:Xaa=phosphothreonine

(ix) FEATURE:

(A) NAME/KEY :

(B) LOCATION : 7

(D) OTHER INFORMATION:Xaa=phosphoserine

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 9:

Cys Arg Xaa Pro Pro Lys Xaa Pro Ser Ala Lys

1

5

10

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 10:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

(A) SEQUENCE LENGTH: 12 amino acids

(B) SEQUENCE TYPE: amino acid

(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: peptide

(ix) FEATURE:

(A) NAME/KEY :

(B) LOCATION : 7

(D) OTHER INFORMATION:Xaa=phosphoserine

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 10:

Cys Lys Ser Lys Ile Gly Xaa Thr Glu Asn Leu Lys

1

5

10

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 11:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

(A) SEQUENCE LENGTH: 12 amino acids

(B) SEQUENCE TYPE: amino acid

(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: peptide

(ix) FEATURE:

(A) NAME/KEY :

(B) LOCATION : 7

(D) OTHER INFORMATION:Xaa=phosphoserine

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 11:

Cys Glu Ile Val Tyr Lys Xaa Pro Val Ser Gly

1

5

10

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 12:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

(A) SEQUENCE LENGTH: 12 amino acids

(B) SEQUENCE TYPE: amino acid

(D) TOPOLOGY: linear
(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: peptide
(ix) FEATURE:
 (A) NAME/KEY :
 (B) LOCATION : 7
 (D) OTHER INFORMATION:Xaa=phosphoserine
(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 12:
Cys Val Ser Gly Asp Thr Xaa Pro Arg His Leu Ser
1 5 10

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 13:
 (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 (A) SEQUENCE LENGTH: 12 amino acids
 (B) SEQUENCE TYPE: amino acid
 (D) TOPOLOGY: linear
 (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: peptide
 (ix) FEATURE:
 (A) NAME/KEY :
 (B) LOCATION : 7
 (D) OTHER INFORMATION:Xaa=phosphoserine
 (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 13:
Lys Leu Ser Asn Val Ser Xaa Thr Gly Ser Ile Asp
1 5 10

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 14:
 (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 (A) SEQUENCE LENGTH: 12 amino acids
 (B) SEQUENCE TYPE: amino acid
 (D) TOPOLOGY: linear
 (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: peptide
 (ix) FEATURE:
 (A) NAME/KEY :
 (B) LOCATION : 7
 (D) OTHER INFORMATION:Xaa=phosphoserine
 (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 14:
Cys Ile Asp Met Val Asp Xaa Pro Gln Leu Ala Thr
1 5 10

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 15:
 (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

(A) SEQUENCE LENGTH: 12 amino acids
(B) SEQUENCE TYPE: amino acid
(D) TOPOLOGY: linear
(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: peptide
(ix) FEATURE:
 (A) NAME/KEY :
 (B) LOCATION : 6
 (D) OTHER INFORMATION:Xaa=phosphoserine
(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 15:
Lys Leu Ser Asn Val Xaa Ser Thr Gly Ser Ile Asp
1 5 10

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 16:
 (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 (A) SEQUENCE LENGTH: 12 amino acids
 (B) SEQUENCE TYPE: amino acid
 (D) TOPOLOGY: linear
 (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: peptide
 (ix) FEATURE:
 (A) NAME/KEY :
 (B) LOCATION : 6
 (D) OTHER INFORMATION:Xaa=phosphoserine
 (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 16:
Lys Leu Ser Asn Val Xaa Xaa Thr Gly Ser Ile Asp
1 5 10

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 17:
 (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 (A) SEQUENCE LENGTH: 17 amino acids
 (B) SEQUENCE TYPE: amino acid
 (D) TOPOLOGY: linear
 (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: peptide
 (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 17:
Ser Pro Gln Leu Ala Thr Leu Ala Asp Glu Val Ser Ala Ser Leu Ala Lys
1 5 10 15

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 18:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) SEQUENCE LENGTH: 12 amino acids
- (B) SEQUENCE TYPE: amino acid
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: peptide

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 18:

Ala Glu Pro Arg Gln Glu Phe Glu Val Met Glu Cys
1 5 10

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 19:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) SEQUENCE LENGTH: 15 amino acids
- (B) SEQUENCE TYPE: amino acid
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: peptide

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 19:

Val Ala Val Val Arg Thr Pro Pro Lys Ser Pro Ser Ser Ala Lys
1 5 10 15

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 20:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) SEQUENCE LENGTH: 34 amino acids
- (B) SEQUENCE TYPE: amino acid
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: peptide

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 20:

Ser Gly Asp Arg Ser Gly Tyr Ser Ser Pro Gly Ser Pro Gly Thr Pro
1 5 10 15
Gly Ser Arg Ser Arg Thr Pro Ser Leu Pro Thr Pro Pro Thr Arg Glu
20 25 30
Pro Lys

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 21:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) SEQUENCE LENGTH: 55 amino acids
- (B) SEQUENCE TYPE: amino acid
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: peptide

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 21:

Ala	Lys	Thr	Asp	His	Gly	Ala	Glu	Ile	Val	Tyr	Lys	Ser	Pro	Val	Val
1				5					10					15	
Ser	Gly	Asp	Thr	Ser	Pro	Arg	His	Leu	Ser	Asn	Val	Ser	Ser	Thr	Gly
		20						25						30	
Ser	Ile	Asp	Met	Val	Asp	Ser	Pro	Gln	Leu	Ala	Thr	Leu	Ala	Asp	Glu
		35						40						45	
Val	Ser	Ala	Ser	Leu	Ala	Lys									
		50				55									

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 22:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

(A) SEQUENCE LENGTH: 12 amino acids

(B) SEQUENCE TYPE: amino acid

(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: peptide

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 22:

Cys	Lys	Ser	Lys	Ile	Gly	Ser	Thr	Glu	Asn	Leu	Lys
1				5						10	

What is claimed is:

1. Antibodies obtained by using as an immunogen a partial peptide comprising phosphorylation sites of phosphorylated tau protein in a paired helical filament.
- 5 2. Antibodies defined in claim 1, recognizing the phosphorylation site(s) of phosphorylated tau protein which site(s) are one or more amino acid residues selected from serine at position 198, serine at position 199, serine at position 202, threonine at position 205,
10 threonine at position 231, serine at position 235, serine at position 262, serine at position 396, threonine at position 403, serine at position 404, serine at position 409, serine at position 412, serine at position 413, and serine at position 422 of an amino
15 acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1.
3. Antibodies defined in claim 1, recognizing the phosphorylation site(s) of phosphorylated tau protein which site(s) are one or more amino acid residues selected from serine at position 199, serine at position
20 202, threonine at position 205, threonine at position 231, serine at position 235, serine at position 262, serine at position 396, serine at position 404, serine at position 412, serine at position 413, and serine at position 422 of an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1.
- 25 4. Antibodies defined in any one of claims 1 to 3, which recognize the partial peptide comprising the

phosphorylation site(s) which peptide comprises an amino acid residue at the phosphorylation site(s) and plural amino acid residues before and/or after the phosphorylation site.

- 5 5. Antibodies defined in any one of claims 1 to 4, which recognize the partial peptide comprising the phosphorylation site, which peptide has an amino acid sequence of any one of SEQ ID NO: 2 to SEQ ID NO: 16.

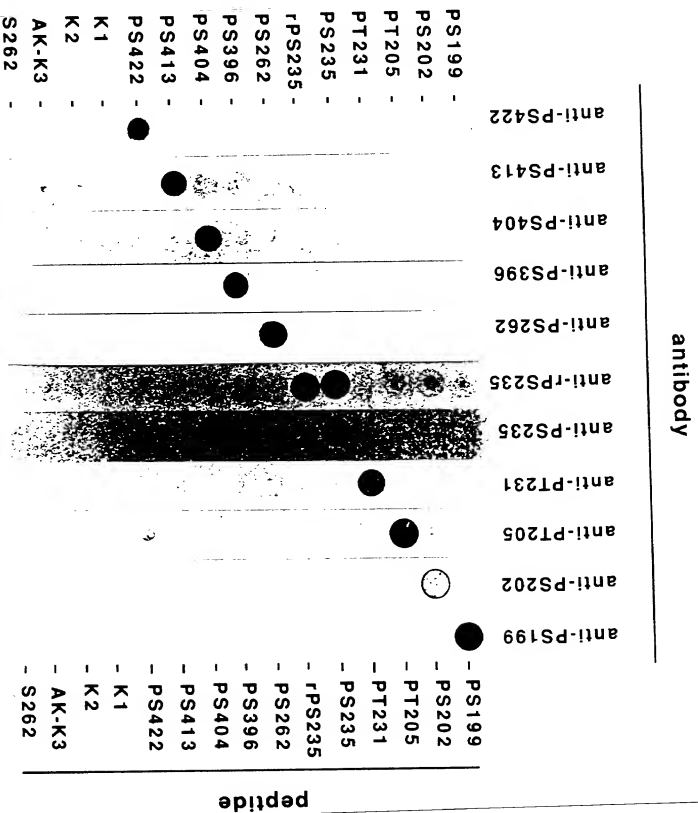
- 10 6. A reagent kit used for detecting Alzheimer's disease, comprising at least the antibodies as defined in any one of claims 1 to 5.

- 15 7. Methods for detecting Alzheimer's disease, which are characterized by examining reactivity of the antibodies, as defined in any one of claims 1 to 5, with a sample from an individual suspected of Alzheimer's disease.

Abstract

An antibody is prepared by using a partial peptide containing the phosphorylated site of a phosphorylated tau protein in the paired helical filament as an
5 immunogen. Then the reactivity of the antibody thus obtained with samples obtained from individuals with a suspicion of Alzheimer's disease is examined to thereby detect the disease.

FIG. 1



09/122613-00000000

09/142613

FIG. 2

TS

AD/N A A A A N N N N N N N A A A A A A A A A A
P/HF + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + +
ID No. 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27

PS 262

(S x 1500)

ID No. 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27

PS 413

(S 62.5)

ID No. 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27

PS 422

(S x 62.5)

ID No. 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27

Tau-C

(x 10000)

ID No. 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27

09/142613, 044500

FIG. 3

SDSppt

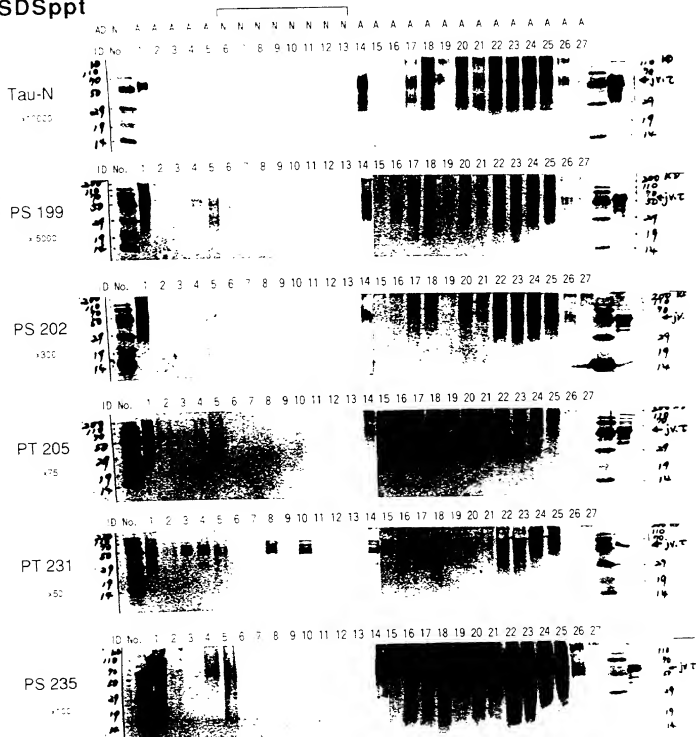


FIG. 4

SDSppt

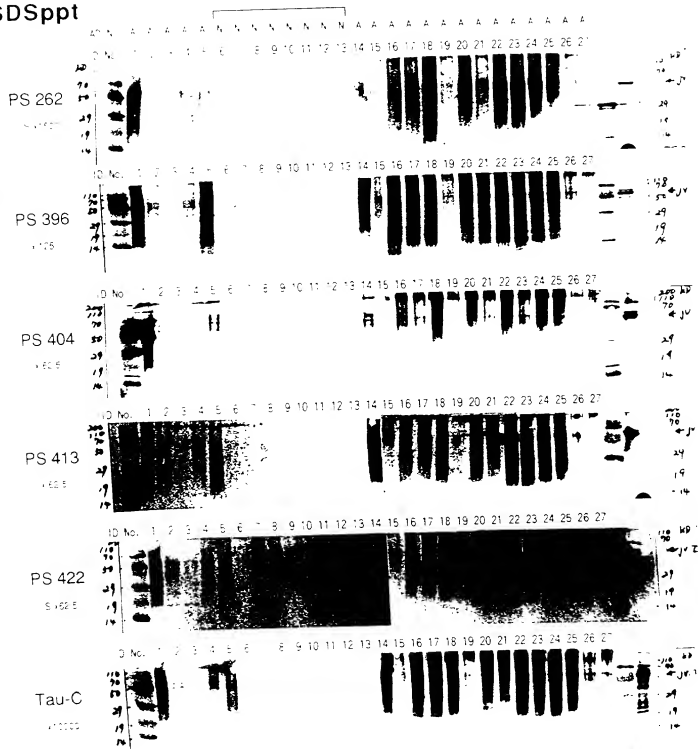
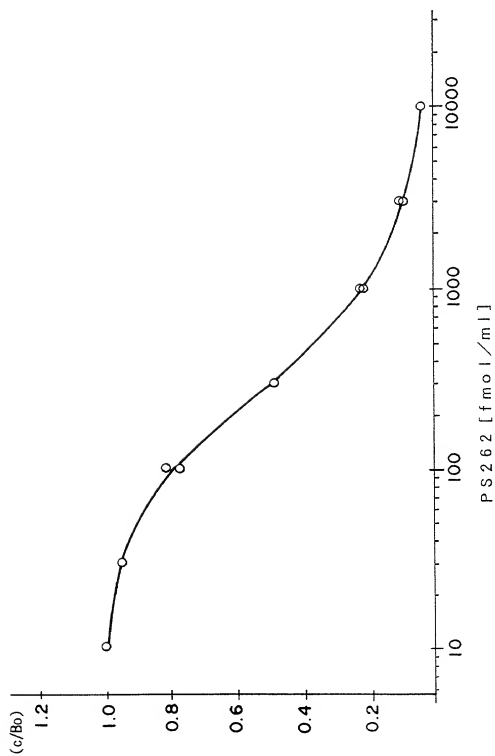


FIG. 5



DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY FOR U.S. PATENT APPLICATION

() Original () Supplemental () Substitute () PCT () Design

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that: my residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name; that I verily believe that I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural inventors are named below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

Title: ANTI-PHOSPHORYLATED TAU PROTEIN ANTIBODIES AND METHOD FOR DETECTING ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE WITH THE USE OF THE SAME

of which is described and claimed in:

- () the attached specification, or
 () the specification in the application Serial No. _____ filed _____;
 and with amendments through _____ (if applicable), or
 (x) the specification in International Application No. PCT/JP97/00804, filed March 13, 1997, and as amended on _____ (if applicable).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the content of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment(s) referred to above.

I acknowledge my duty to disclose to the Patent and Trademark Office all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56.

I hereby claim priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, §119 (and §172 if this application is for a Design) of any application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

COUNTRY	APPLICATION NO.	DATE OF FILING	PRIORITY CLAIMED
Japan	8-56090	March 13, 1996	YES

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, §120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, §112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56 which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.

APPLICATION SERIAL NO.	U.S. FILING DATE	STATUS: PATENTED, PENDING, ABANDONED

And I hereby appoint John T. Miller, Reg. No. 21,120; Michael R. Davis, Reg. No. 25,134; Matthew M. Jacob, Reg. No. 25,154; Jeffrey Nolton, Reg. No. 25,408; Warren M. Check, Jr., Reg. No. 33,367; Nils E. Pedersen, Reg. No. 33,145; and Charles R. Watts, Reg. No. 33,142, who together constitute the firm of WENDEROTH, LIND & PONACK, L.L.P., attorneys to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

I hereby authorize the U.S. attorneys named herein to accept and follow instructions from Sera, Toyama, Matsukura, Kawaguchi & Koiwai as to any action to be taken in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office regarding this application without direct communication between the U.S. attorneys and myself. In the event of a change in the persons from whom instructions may be taken, the U.S. attorneys named herein will be so notified by me.

Send Correspondence to

WENDEROTH, LIND & PONACK, L.L.P.
2033 K Street, N.W., Suite 800
Washington, DC 20006

Direct Telephone Calls to:

WENDEROTH, LIND & PONACK, L.L.P.
Area Code (202) 721-8200

Direct Facsimile Messages to:

Area Code (202) 721-8250

Full Name of First Inventor	FAMILY NAME ISHIGURO	FIRST GIVEN NAME Koichi	SECOND GIVEN NAME
Residence & Citizenship	CITY Machida-shi	STATE OR COUNTRY Tokyo, Japan	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP Japan
Post Office Address	ADDRESS C/O MITSUBISHI KASEI INSTITUTE OF LIFE SCIENCE, 11, Minamiooya, Machida-shi, Tokyo, Japan		
Full Name of Second Inventor	FAMILY NAME SATO	FIRST GIVEN NAME Kazuki	SECOND GIVEN NAME
Residence & Citizenship	CITY Machida-shi	STATE OR COUNTRY Tokyo, Japan	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP Japan
Post Office Address	ADDRESS C/O MITSUBISHI KASEI INSTITUTE OF LIFE SCIENCE, 11, Minamiooya, Machida-shi, Tokyo, Japan		
Full Name of Third Inventor	FAMILY NAME PARK	FIRST GIVEN NAME Jun-Mi	SECOND GIVEN NAME
Residence & Citizenship	CITY Machida-shi	STATE OR COUNTRY Tokyo, Japan	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP Republic of Korea
Post Office Address	ADDRESS C/O MITSUBISHI KASEI INSTITUTE OF LIFE SCIENCE, 11, Minamiooya, Machida-shi, Tokyo, Japan		
Full Name of Fourth Inventor	FAMILY NAME UCHIDA	FIRST GIVEN NAME Tsuneko	SECOND GIVEN NAME
Residence & Citizenship	CITY Machida-shi	STATE OR COUNTRY Tokyo, Japan	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP Japan
Post Office Address	ADDRESS C/O MITSUBISHI KASEI INSTITUTE OF LIFE SCIENCE, 11, Minamiooya, Machida-shi, Tokyo, Japan		

Full Name of Fifth Inventor	FAMILY NAME <u>IMAHORI</u>	FIRST GIVEN NAME <u>Kazutomo</u>	SECOND GIVEN NAME
Residence & Citizenship	CITY <u>Machida-shi</u>	STATE OR COUNTRY <u>Tokyo, Japan</u>	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP <u>Japan</u>
Post Office Address	ADDRESS <u>C/O MITSUBISHI KASEI INSTITUTE OF LIFE SCIENCE, 11, Minamiooya, Machida-shi, Tokyo, Japan</u>	CITY	STATE OR COUNTRY <u>ZIP CODE</u>
Full Name of Sixth Inventor	FAMILY NAME	FIRST GIVEN NAME	SECOND GIVEN NAME
Residence & Citizenship	CITY	STATE OR COUNTRY	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP
Post Office Address	ADDRESS	CITY	STATE OR COUNTRY <u>ZIP CODE</u>
Full Name of Seventh Inventor	FAMILY NAME	FIRST GIVEN NAME	SECOND GIVEN NAME
Residence & Citizenship	CITY	STATE OR COUNTRY	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP
Post Office Address	ADDRESS	CITY	STATE OR COUNTRY <u>ZIP CODE</u>

I further declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true, and that all statements on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

1st Inventor Kojiro Ishiguro Date April 9, 1999
 2nd Inventor Kazuki Sato Date April 9, 1999
 3rd Inventor Jun-Mi Park Date April 9, 1999
 4th Inventor Tsuneo Uchida Date April 9, 1999
 5th Inventor Kazutomo Imahori Date April 9, 1999
 6th Inventor _____ Date _____
 7th Inventor _____ Date _____

The above application may be more particularly identified as follows:

U.S. Application Serial No. _____ Filing Date _____
 Applicant Reference Number _____ Atty Docket No. _____
 Title of Invention _____